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# Gadfly Stings C.I.A. by 'Naming Names' of Its Agents

By PHILIP TAUBMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 9 — Louis Wolf inhabits a grim world. He works behind locked doors, believes his telephone is tapped and his movements are watched by the Government, and he has a funereal expression engraved on his face. His business is exposing the secrets of the Central Intelligence Agency.

As an editor of the Covert Action Information Bulletin and co-author of two books about the Federal agency's covert operations, Mr. Wolf boasts of having helped to disclose the identities of more than 2,000 American intelligence agents stationed around the world.

Intelligence officials assert that that work has endangered the lives of American agents. It has certainly prompted the introduction of legislation in Congress that would ban the naming of espionage agents and has also made Mr. Wolf a nemesis of the agency.

## He Terms Work Essential

Mr. Wolf said in an interview here that he considered his work essential. "In country after country the C.I.A. has been involved in efforts to overthrow governments, assassinate leaders or otherwise intervene in the internal affairs of independent nations," he said. "We have no right to do these things."

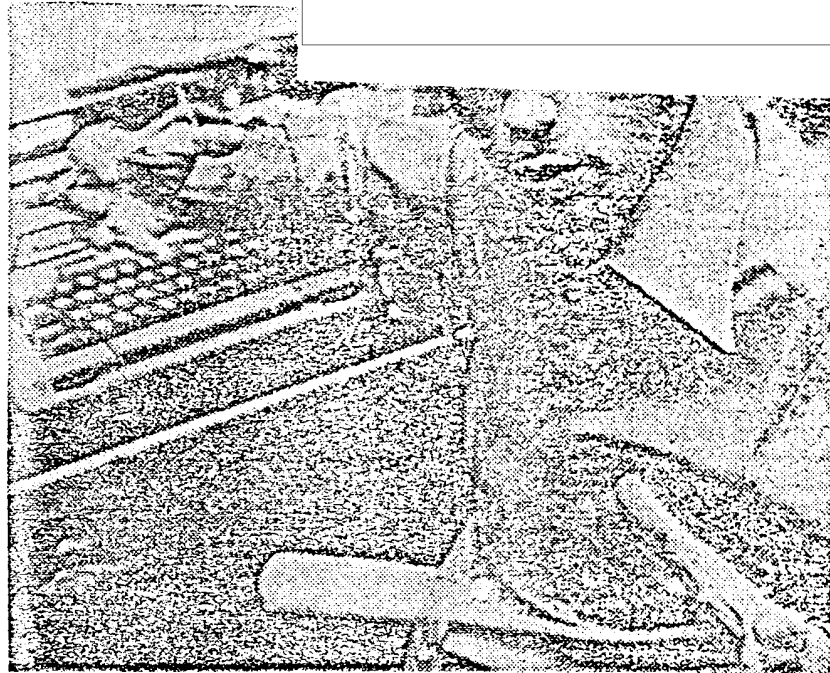
He acknowledged that some of the most serious abuses by the agency that were disclosed in Congressional hearings in the mid-1970's had stopped, but he insisted that "a lot of the activity has simply gone further underground."

He said that his work was limited to exposing covert activities and agents. "We have no problem with C.I.A. analysis or intelligence gathering," he said. He added that he had never published the name of an agency analyst.

Last weekend the home of an American Embassy official in Jamaica was attacked by gunmen two days after Mr. Wolf publicly described the official, N. Richard Kinsman, as the intelligence agency's station chief in Kingston. Mr. Kinsman was unharmed. The agency would not say whether he was an agency officer.

## Bulletin Is Main Weapon

Mr. Wolf charged that the agency had "probably" staged the attack itself to gain support in Congress for pending bills that would make it a criminal offense to identify intelligence agents.



The New York Times/Teresa Zabala

## Louis Wolf at his desk in his office yesterday in Washington

Mr. Wolf's main weapon against the agency is the Covert Action Information Bulletin. Published six times a year, it provides its 6,000 subscribers with a mix of exposés about alleged covert operations of the agency and a regular feature entitled "Naming Names."

Recent issues included a report on the agency's alleged ties to the newspaper and publishing industry, an article accusing it of persecuting Philip Agee, a former agent who has worked with Mr. Wolf in identifying American agents, and an account of American efforts to "destabilize" Jamaica.

But the main irritant to the intelligence agency is the "Naming Names" column. In the latest issue, the column purports to identify 40 United States intelligence operatives in 23 countries. Agency officials said that the bulletin's lists included much accurate information.

## No Regrets About Efforts

Mr. Wolf said that he had no regrets about his work. "C.I.A. covert activities are inseparable from C.I.A. people," he said. "To stop the activities you have to identify the people."

He calls his work "journalism." His critics call it "irresponsible crusading" at a minimum and "treason" at a maximum.

Mr. Wolf and the Bulletin are headquartered in a small office suite in the National Press Building. The

front door is locked because of telephone threats received by Mr. Wolf, and visitors to the office are carefully questioned before they are admitted.

Mr. Wolf believes the telephones are tapped by the National Security Agency in behalf of the C.I.A. He talked about the time a man standing outside the Sheraton Carlton Hotel in Washington took his picture with a telephoto lens. "I'm sure he was a Government agent," Mr. Wolf said.

## A Conscientious Objector

Mr. Wolf, who is 39 years old, grew up in a wealthy Philadelphia family. He became a Quaker and did alternative service in Laos as a conscientious objector. It was when he was in Southeast Asia in 1964, Mr. Wolf said, that he became a critic of the intelligence agency. "I realized I was unwittingly helping the C.I.A. in its covert activities," he said.

Mr. Wolf, with Mr. Agee, published a list of hundreds of alleged agents in 1978 in a book called "Dirty Work" which described the agency's covert activities in Europe. He published another extensive list this year in "Dirty Work 2," a book about the agency's operations in Africa.

And he will keep on naming names, Mr. Wolf said, until the agency ends its covert activities or until Congress outlaws his work.